

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15

SAJ-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDE-00 /121 W

-----161258Z 062764 /45

O R 161154Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5243

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION UN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 1122

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, US, CCD

SUBJ: CCD: WESTERN GROUP MEETING

REF: A. STATE 032307, B. GENEVA 1066

1. SUMMARY. IN MEETING OF WESTERN GROUP FEB 15, USREP OUTLINED US VIEWS ON CCD ISSUES, REPORTED ON US-SOVIET CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING, AND SOLICITED VIEWS OF ALLIES ON UPCOMING CCD SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. WITH USREP (SLOSS) IN THE CHAIR, WESTERN GROUP (US, UK, FRG, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, CANADA AND JAPAN) MET AT USMISSION ON MORNING OF FEB 15, PRIOR TO OPENING OF CCD. USREP OPENED WITH EXPLANATION OF HOW US WILL BE REPRESENTED AT CCD, AT LEAST DURING FIRST PART OF SESSION. USREP
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OUTLINED GENERAL APPROACH TO SPRING SESSION US PLANS TO TAKE, DRAWING ON REF A AS APPROPRIATE, AND REPORTED ON CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING (REF B). USREP ASKED FOR VIEWS OF WESTERN GROUP ON BOTH THE SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES THAT ARE LIKELY TO COME UP AT THE SPRING SESSION, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF SETTING DATES FOR SEISMIC EXPERTS' MEETING AND MEETING ON NEW WEAPONS OF MASS

DESTRUCTION (MDW).

3. NETHERLANDS REP (VAN KLAUW) REPORTED THAT SWEDES HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF SOVIET INTENTIONS TO ATTEND SEISMIC EXPERTS' GROUP, AND THAT THE SWEDES INDICATED TO SOVIETS THAT THEY CONSIDERED FEB 21-25 DATES FOR THE MEETING AS ALREADY FIXED. HE ALSO SAID THAT SWEDES HAD INDICATED THAT WHILE THEY WILL SEEK TO INITIATE DISCUSSION ON CTB WITH THEIR OPENING STATEMENT ON FEB 17, THEY DO NOT INTEND TO TABLE A WORKING PAPER AT THAT TIME. NETHERLANDS REP ALSO REPORTED THAT SWEDES INDICATED THAT THEY SEE NEED TO MAKE SOME PROVISION FOR PNE'S SINCE NPT PROVIDES FOR PNE SERVICES.

4. ITALIAN REP (DIBERNARDO), WHO IS INSCRIBED AS LAST SPEAKER AT CCD'S OPENING SESSION, INDICATED THAT IN HIS STATEMENT HE WILL PROPOSE ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC GROUP TO ORGANIZE MATERIAL ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW) IN ORDER TO FACILITATE NEGOTIATIONS. HE INDICATED THAT THE ITALIAN POSITION ON MDW REMAINED THE SAME AS IN THE PAST.

5. UKREP (ALLEN) SUPPORTED THE US VIEW THAT CW AND CTB SHOULD HAVE HIGHEST PRIORITY ON CCD'S AGENDS, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT OTHERS WOULD COMMENT ON UK TEXT OF A DRAFT CW CONVENTION WHICH WAS TABLED LATE LAST SUMMER AT CCD. HE INDICATED THAT UK COULD SUPPORT ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR A CW WORKING GROUP. WITH RESPECT TO CCD PROCEDURES, UK REP RECALLED THE UNHAPPINESS THAT MANY NON-CCD STATES HAD EXPRESSED AT THE UN LAST CONFIDENTIAL

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FALL WHEN ON VERY SHORT NOTICE THEY WERE PRESENTED WITH A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION CONVENTION ON A TAKE-IT-OR-LEAVE-IT BASIS. HE WONDERED IF THE CCD MIGHT GIVE CONSIDERATION TO AVOIDING A REPEAT OF THIS SITUATION BY NOTIFYING UN MEMBERS IN CAPITALS OF TREATY TEXTS AS SOON AS NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. ALTERNATIVELY, HE SUGGESTED THAT INFORMAL WORKING GROUPS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS, SUCH AS CW WORKING GROUP PROPOSED BY ITALY, MIGHT BE OPENED UP TO INTERESTED COUNTRIES WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE CCD. UK REP SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS NOT MADE FINAL DECISION ON SENDING AN EXPERT TO MDW MEETINGS, BUT THAT THEY WERE THINKING IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO SEND A MILITARY THEORIST RATHER THAN A SCIENTIST.

6. JAPANESE REP (OGISO) POSED THREE QUESTIONS:

A. IF SOVIETS PRESS FOR AGREEMENT ON DATE FOR MDW, WHAT WILL US POSITION BE?

B. LAST YEAR THE CCD AGREED TO CONSIDER QUESTION
OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF DISARMAMENT; WILL THE US
MAKE A PROPOSAL FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM?

C. IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT PROGRESS ON A
CTB MAY BE IMMINENT, WOULD IT NOT BE DESIRABLE TO ASK
THE SEISMIC EXPERTS TO COMPLETE THEIR REPORT BY END OF
THE SUMMER SESSION, OR IF THIS IS NOT FEASIBLE, TO
PROVIDE AN INTERIM REPORT AT THAT TIME?

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7. CANADIAN REP (JAY) SUGGESTED LOOKING AT CCD IN
THE CONTEXT OF NEXT 18 MONTHS. HE CHARACTERIZED UP-
COMING SPRING SESSION AS SETTING STAGE, BUT LIKELY TO
CONSIST MORE OF FORM THAN SUBSTANCE. HE SAID THAT THE
NON-ALIGNED WERE IN EFFECT GIVING THE CCD 18 MONTHS
(FROM NOW UNTIL THE US SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT)
TO PROVE THAT IT IS AN EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATING BODY.
CANADIAN REP INDICATED SUPPORT FOR ITALIAN CW WORKING
GROUP PROPOSAL WHICH THEY CONSIDER AS PROVIDING GOOD
OPTICS. NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE BY CANADIANS ON PAR-
TICIPATING IN MDW MEETINGS.

8. FRG REP (SCHLAICH) SUGGESTED THAT WE TAKE STEPS TO DECOUPLE POSSIBLE SOVIET LINKAGE OF WESTERN PARTICIPATION IN MDW WITH SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN SEISMIC WORK. HE INDICATED SYMPATHY FOR THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL, SUGGESTED
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THAT WESTERN GROUP FOCUS ON ISSUE OF COMPREHENSIVE DISARMAMENT PROGRAM, AND PROPOSED THAT WESTERN GROUP MIGHT EXCHANGE VIEWS ON SSOD.

9. A. US REP NOTED THAT NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS WILL BE MEETING IN APRIL, WITH CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO ADVANCING THE MEETING TO THE EARLY PART OF THE MONTH, AND THAT SSOD IS LIKELY TO BE A MAJOR TOPIC ON THE AGENDA. HE NOTED THAT US WOULD ALSO BE CONSULTING ON THIS ISSUE WITH JAPAN.

B. WITH RESPECT TO COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF DISARMAMENT, US REP SAID THAT US WOULD WELCOME A PROPOSAL TO SET ASIDE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF TIME TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE.

C. USREP SAID THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS DATES FOR SEISMIC EXPERTS' MEETING WITH SOVIET AMB LIKHACHEV IN ATTEMPT TO GET THIS SETTLED PROMPTLY.

D. USREP REPORTED THAT SWEDES HAS SPOKEN WITH US IN WASHINGTON AND HAD INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO TABLE DOCUMENT ALONG LINES OF EARLIER TEXT.

E. WITH REGARD TO ITALIAN PROPOSAL, USREP SAID THAT WE AGREE THAT AN AD HOC CW WORKING GROUP ALONG LINES USED DURING ENMOD NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL WHEN CW NEGOTIATIONS ARE RIPE, BUT IT MAY BE PREMATURE TO FORM SUCH A GROUP NOW.

F. USREP SAID THAT AN EARLY REPORT BY THE SEISMIC EXPERTS, AS SUGGESTED BY JAPAN, COULD BE USEFUL.

G. USREP OUTLINED POSSIBLE CALENDAR FOR CCD SPRING SESSION STARTING WITH SEISMIC EXPERTS FEB 21-25, FOLLOWED BY INFORMAL MEETINGS ON COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIA-
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TING PROGRAM AND PROCEDURES. MDW MEETINGS MIGHT BE SET

FOR MARCH 14-18, WITH CW MEETINGS TO FOLLOW, AND THEN
THE SPRING SESSION MIGHT END EARLY, JUST BEFORE EASTER.

10. CANADIAN REP SAID THAT IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO
TERMINATE SPRING SESSION EARLY SINCE YUGOSLAVS HAD MENTIONED
PROSPECT OF EXTENDING SPRING SESSION. UKREP SUGGESTED
GIVING CONSIDERATION TO CONVENING SUMMER CCD SESSION IN ADVANCE
OF SEABED TREATY REVCON, AND THAN RECESSING FOR TWO WEEKS
DURING THE REVCON. THE US OBSERVATION THAT IT MIGHT BE
NECESSARY TO EXTEND THE SUMMER SESSION IF SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS
ENSUED WAS RECEIVED WITH EMOTIONS WHICH RANGED FROM
PAIN TO DISCOMFORT.

11. AS THE DISCUSSION OF CCD-RELATED ISSUES CAME TO A
CLOSE, THE CANADIAN REP ASKED WHO IS TO BE THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SEABED REVCON, AND THE ENSUING EXCHANGE WAS SPIRITED
BUT INCONCLUSIVE. (FURTHER DETAILS ON THIS SUBJECT BEING
SENT SEPTEL.)CATTO

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